09/530772

526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 MAY 2000

Docket No.: 50179-080

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Himanshu N. BRAHMBHATT, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: May 04, 2000

Examiner:

For:

SUICIDE EXPRESSION VECTOR FOR VACCINE STRAINS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as

follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 6, line 1, please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim1--.

Claim 8, line 1, please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 13, line 2, please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 15, line 4, please change "any one of claims 1 to 12" to --claim 1--.

Claim 17, line 5, please change "any one of claims 1 to 12" to --claim 1--.

Claim 19, line 2, please delete " or 18".

REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple dependency of claims 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, and 19 to avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Robert L. Price

Registration No. 22,685

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 RLP:dtb

Date: May 4, 2000

Facsimile: (202) 756-8087